

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
20 October 2005 (20.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/098548 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G03G 15/08, B65D 83/06**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/JP2005/004887

(22) International Filing Date: 14 March 2005 (14.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
2004-081611 19 March 2004 (19.03.2004) JP
2004-279113 27 September 2004 (27.09.2004) JP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **RICOH COMPANY, LIMITED [JP/JP]**; 3-6, Nakamagome 1-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, 1438555 (JP).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **TAKAMI, Nobuo [JP/JP]**; c/o RICOH COMPANY, LIMITED, 3-6, Nakamagome 1-chome, Ohta-ku, Tokyo, 1438555 (JP).

(74) Agent: SAKAI, Hiroaki; Sakai International Patent Office, Kasumigaseki Building, 2-5, Kasumigaseki 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-6019 (JP).

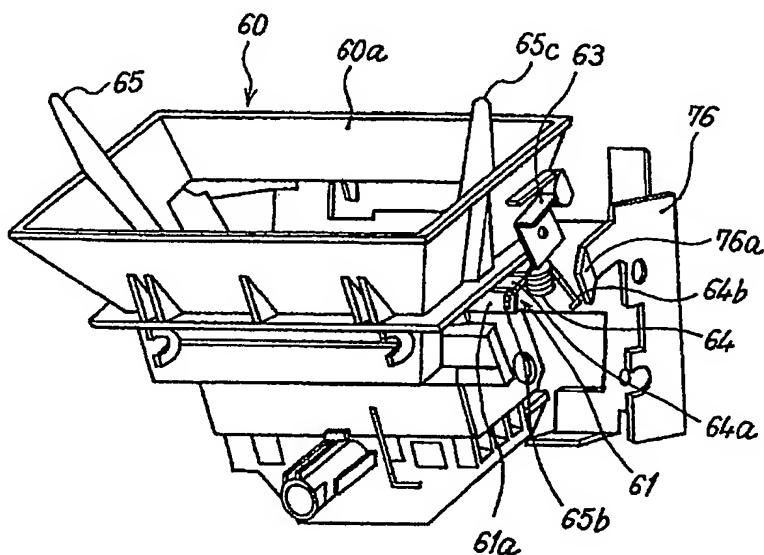
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CONTAINER HOLDING DEVICE, CONVEYING DEVICE, IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, AND METHOD OF FIXING CONTAINER



(57) Abstract: A container holding device includes a container guide member (60) that holds a toner container (50). The toner container (50) can be detachably attached to the container guide member (60). The toner container (50) includes a soft, shrinkable bag (51) for storing contents such as toner. The container guide member (60) can move between a first position at which the toner container (50) is detachably attached and a second position at which the contents of the toner container (50) can be discharged. A moving unit moves the container guide member (60) between the first and second positions. An external pressurizing unit shrinks the bag (51) by applying external pressure, and applies a lower pressure when the container guide member (60) is at the first position than at the second position.



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.